



PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN™

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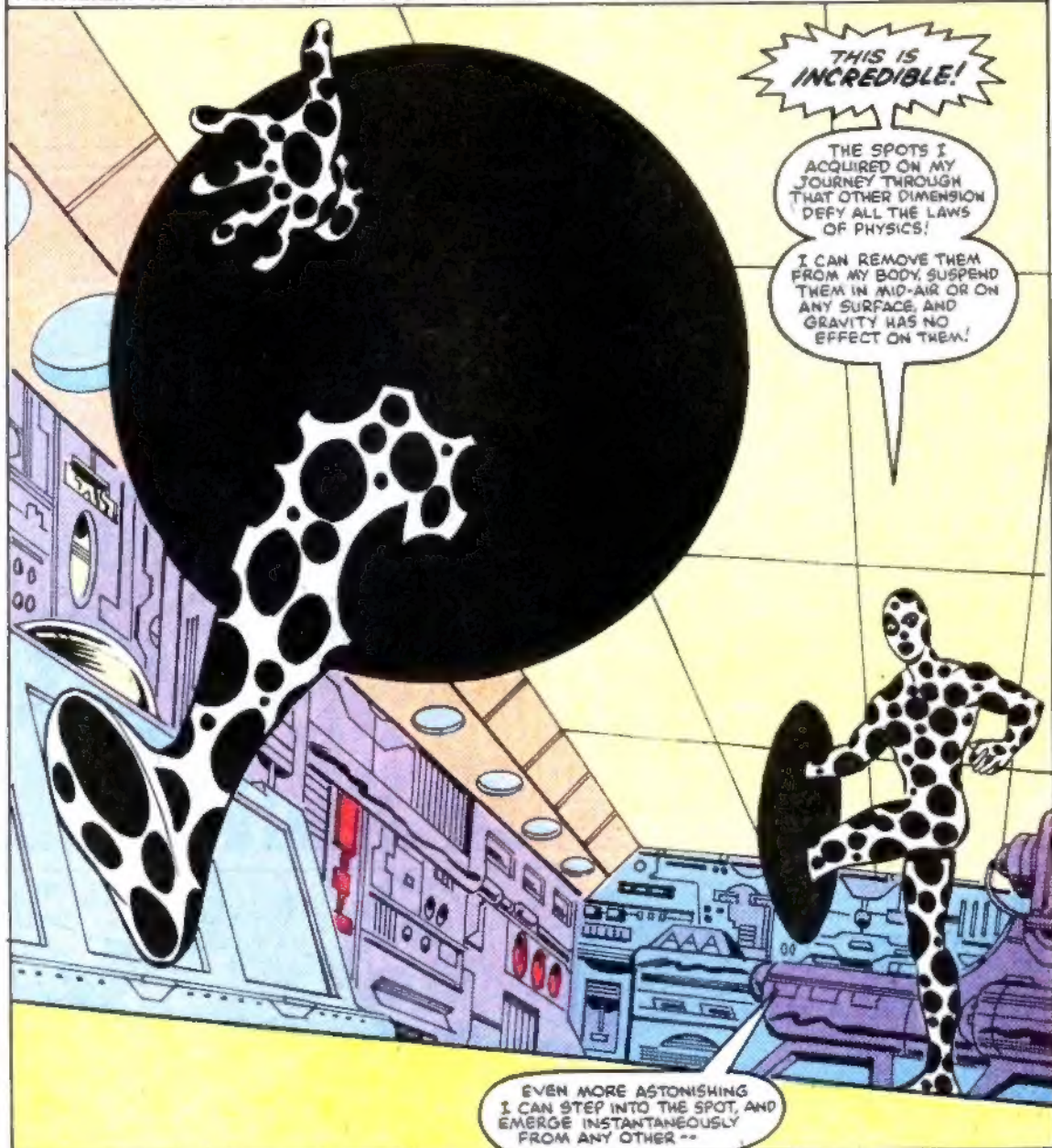
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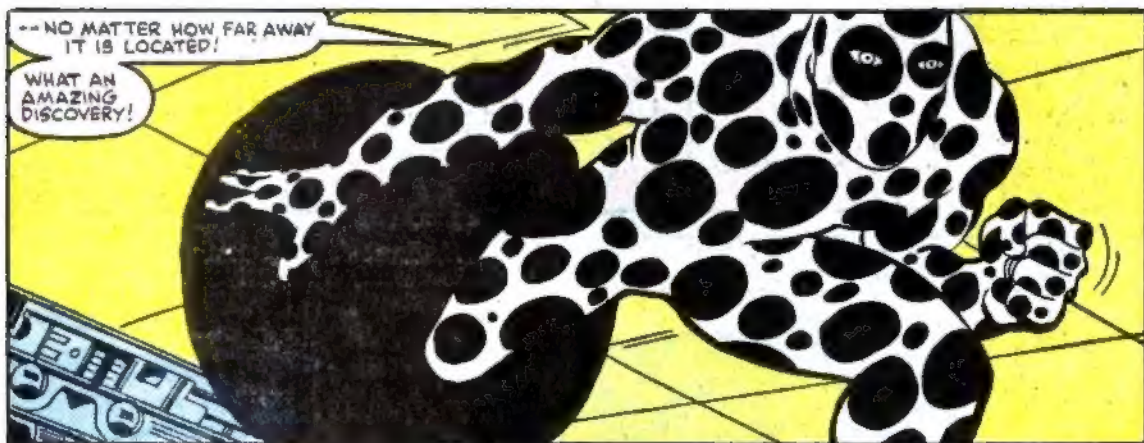
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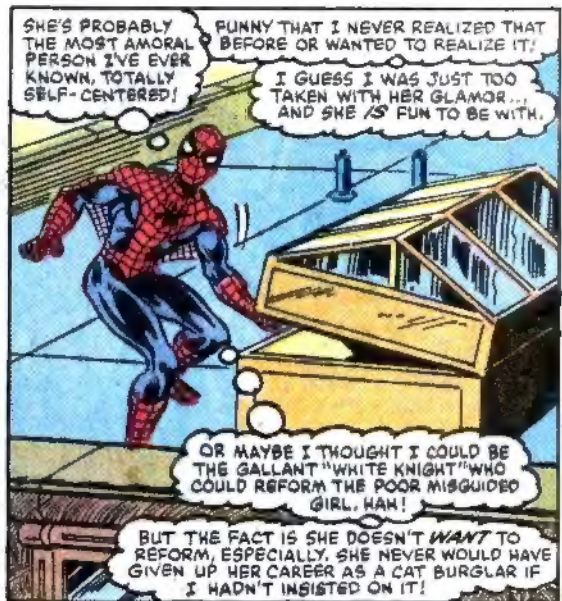
SPIDER ON THE SPOT!

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I-- I'M SORRY, MISS. I WAS JUST...

JUST FLIRTING WITH MY ROOMMATES? I NOTICED!

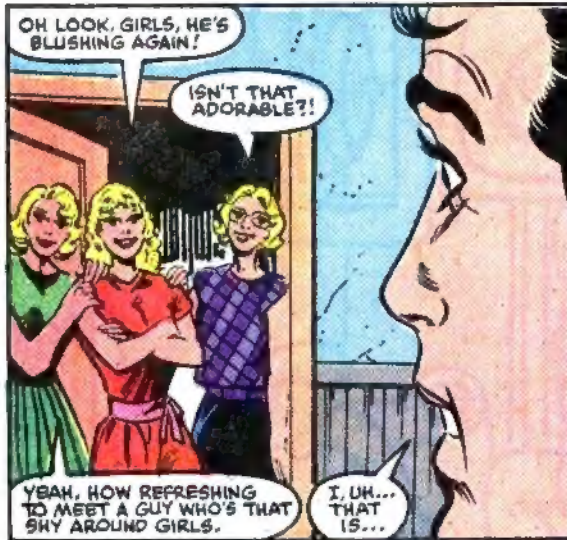
WELL...ER... LET ME HELP YOU UP!



THANKS. I GUESS NOW I KNOW WHY THEY CALL THESE "THROW PILLOWS"!

HEH, HEH. I REALLY AM SORRY ABOUT THIS. I'M NOT USUALLY THIS CLUMSY!

NO PROBLEM. I GUESS WHEN A GIRL'S NAME IS *BAMBI*, IT'S JUST NATURAL FOR PEOPLE TO WANT TO *THUMP* HER!



OH LOOK, GIRLS, HE'S BLUSHING AGAIN!

ISN'T THAT ADORABLE?!

YEAH. HOW REFRESHING TO MEET A GUY WHO'S THAT SHY AROUND GIRLS.

I, UH... THAT IS...



OH, PETER, IT'S YOU! THANK GOODNESS!

HUH? ANOTHER ONE-- BUT WHO--?!



OH, SHA SHAN!

YES. I'M SO RELIEVED TO FIND YOU HERE. I BUZZED YOUR APARTMENT BUT THERE WAS NO ANSWER.

LUCKILY ONE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS LET ME IN! I NEED YOU, PETER.

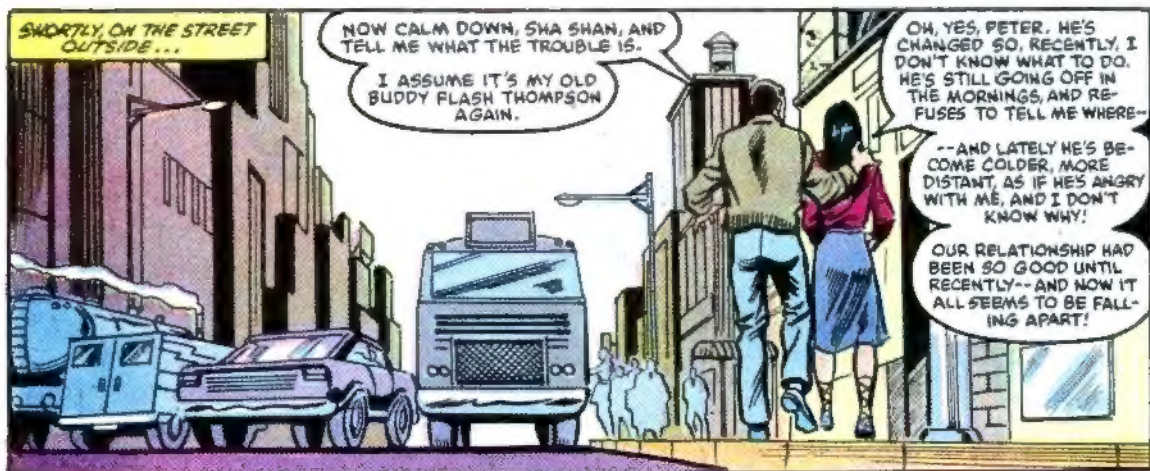


WHAT'S WRONG, SHA SHAN?

OH... PETER, I-- I--

SHY AROUND GIRLS, EH, RANDI?

AW... AND HE'S SO DARN CUTE!



NOW CALM DOWN, SHA SHAN, AND TELL ME WHAT THE TROUBLE IS.

I ASSUME IT'S MY OLD BUDDY FLASH THOMPSON AGAIN.

OH, YES, PETER. HE'S CHANGED SO. RECENTLY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. HE'S STILL GOING OFF IN THE MORNINGS, AND REFUSES TO TELL ME WHERE--

--AND LATELY HE'S BECOME COLDER, MORE DISTANT, AS IF HE'S ANGRY WITH ME, AND I DON'T KNOW WHY!

OUR RELATIONSHIP HAD BEEN SO GOOD UNTIL RECENTLY-- AND NOW IT ALL SEEMS TO BE FALLING APART!



I- I FEEL FOOLISH TELLING YOU ALL THIS, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHERE ELSE TO TURN!

IT'S OKAY, SHA SHAN. I'M FLASH'S FRIEND... AND YOURS, TOO.

I HAD A LITTLE MISUNDERSTANDING WITH THE BIG LUG RECENTLY MYSELF, BUT I KNOW HE'LL GET OVER IT.



AND ONE WAY OR ANOTHER I'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF HIS STRANGE BEHAVIOR FOR YOU... I PROMISE!

OH, PETER, IF ONLY I COULD REALLY BELIEVE THAT--!



BELIEVE IT! NOW YOU GO ON TO YOUR CLASSES, AND I'LL CALL YOU THE MINUTE I KNOW SOMETHING.

THANK YOU, PETER! I'LL CALL YOU SOON.



WHILE, WATCHING FROM A NEARBY CAR...

I COULD HARDLY BELIEVE IT WHEN I SAW THEM TOGETHER THE OTHER DAY, BUT IT'S TRUE! THAT PUNK PARKER IS HORNING IN ON MY GIRL!

LOOKS THAT WAY, FLASHER!



YOU WANT WE SHOULD COME DOWN ON THE SKINNY LITTLE DUDE AND TEACH HIM A LESSON?

NO! NO, I CAN HANDLE THIS MYSELF! LET'S GET TO WORK!

OKAY! BUT REMEMBER-- THE BOYS IN THE ORGANIZATION STICK TOGETHER! IF YOU NEED HELP JUST LET US KNOW!





HELLO, PETER. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

IT'S THE USUAL JOB, I'M LOOKING FOR WORK!

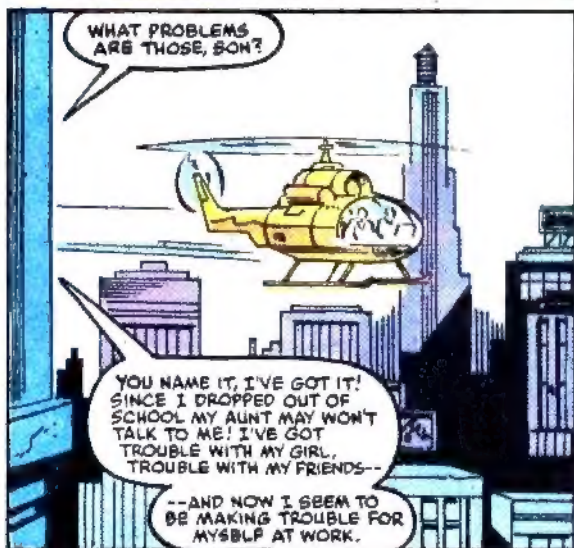
OH, AND HERE I WAS SORT OF HOPING THAT MY ACE FREELANCE PHOTOG MIGHT HAVE SOME GOOD SHOTS OF THE BLACK-OUT THE OTHER DAY!



ER... NO, I MISSED GETTING ANY!

NOW, PETER, DO I REALLY HAVE TO GO OVER THE DEFINITION OF A FREELANCER WITH YOU AGAIN?

I'M SORRY, JOE. I GUESS I'VE BEEN SO WRAPPED UP IN MY PERSONAL PROBLEMS LATELY THAT I'VE BEEN NEGLECTING MY WORK.



WHAT PROBLEMS ARE THOSE, SON?

YOU NAME IT, I'VE GOT IT! SINCE I DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL MY AUNT MAY WON'T TALK TO ME! I'VE GOT TROUBLE WITH MY GIRL, TROUBLE WITH MY FRIENDS--

--AND NOW I SEEM TO BE MAKING TROUBLE FOR MYSELF AT WORK.



EASY NOW, SON. DON'T BE TOO HARD ON YOURSELF!

YOU JUST HAVE TO STICK WITH IT! YOU WERE MAKING BIG STRIDES IN THE QUALITY OF YOUR PHOTOS. IT'S NOT UNUSUAL TO HIT A SLUMP ESPECIALLY WITH ALL THE OTHER THINGS GOING ON IN YOUR LIFE!



IF ROBBIE ONLY KNEW THAT MY PICTURES WERE LOOKING BETTER BECAUSE THE BLACK CAT WAS TAKING THEM FOR ME! HOW EM-BARRASSING!

YOU'RE A SMART YOUNG MAN, PETER. FRANKLY, I'M STILL A LITTLE SURPRISED THAT YOU DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL.



BUT THE BOTTOM LINE IS: IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE A PHOTOGRAPHER, BE A GOOD ONE!

YOU'VE GOT THE STUFF!



THE SULTRY SUMMER DAY PASSES SLOWLY IN THE CONCRETE CANYONS OF THE BIG APPLE, AND EVENING FINDS US AT A LUSH PENTHOUSE APARTMENT OCCUPIED BY...



...FELICIA HARDY, ALIAS THE BLACK CAT.

WHAT A TRANQUIL DOMESTIC SCENE, ME SITTING HERE SEWING FOR MY SPIDER!

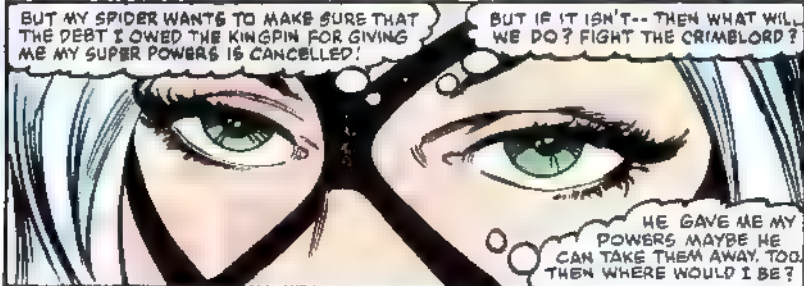


FACE IT, THOUGH, GIRL, YOU'RE DOING THIS TO TRY AND KEEP YOUR MIND OFF THIS EVENING -- AND IT *ASN'T* WORKING!

I'M AFRAID OF FACING THE KINGPIN!

BUT MY SPIDER WANTS TO MAKE SURE THAT THE DEBT I OWED THE KINGPIN FOR GIVING ME MY SUPER POWERS IS CANCELLED!

BUT IF IT ISN'T-- THEN WHAT WILL WE DO? FIGHT THE CRIMELORD?



HE GAVE ME MY POWERS. MAYBE HE CAN TAKE THEM AWAY, TOO. THEN WHERE WOULD I BE?

WHY IS SPIDER PUTTING ME *THROUGH* THIS GRIEF? THIS ISN'T THE WAY I WANTED THINGS TO GO! SOMEBODY I WONDER IF OUR RELATIONSHIP IS WORTH ALL THE HASSLES.

HE'S SUCH A STRAIGHT ARROW, SO STUFFY SOMETIMES...



BUT, NO! HE'S THE ONLY MAN FOR ME. WHERE ELSE COULD I FIND SOMEONE WHO COULD MATCH MY LOVE OF ADVENTURE...OR MY POWER?

AND I'M SURE THE LONGER WE STAY TOGETHER, THE MORE I'LL BE ABLE TO LOOSEN HIM UP SOME.

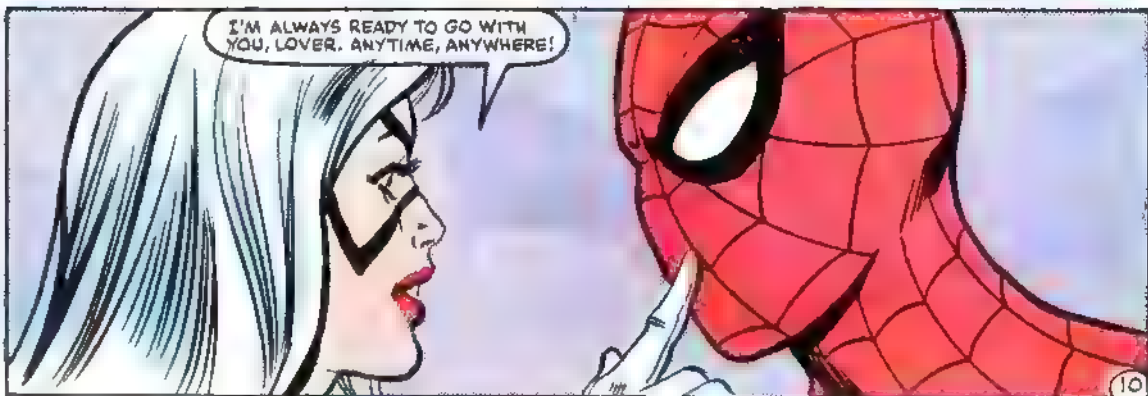
YES! MY LOVE FOR HIM IS SO GREAT THAT NOTHING COULD MAKE US--

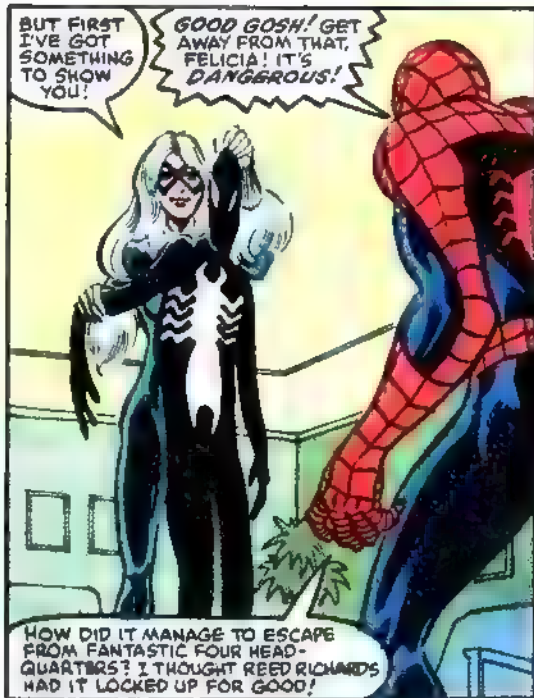
FELICIA! YOU READY TO GO?



SPIDER!

I'M ALWAYS READY TO GO WITH YOU, LOVER. ANYTIME, ANYWHERE!





BUT FIRST I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SHOW YOU!

GOOD GOSH! GET AWAY FROM THAT, FELICIA! IT'S DANGEROUS!

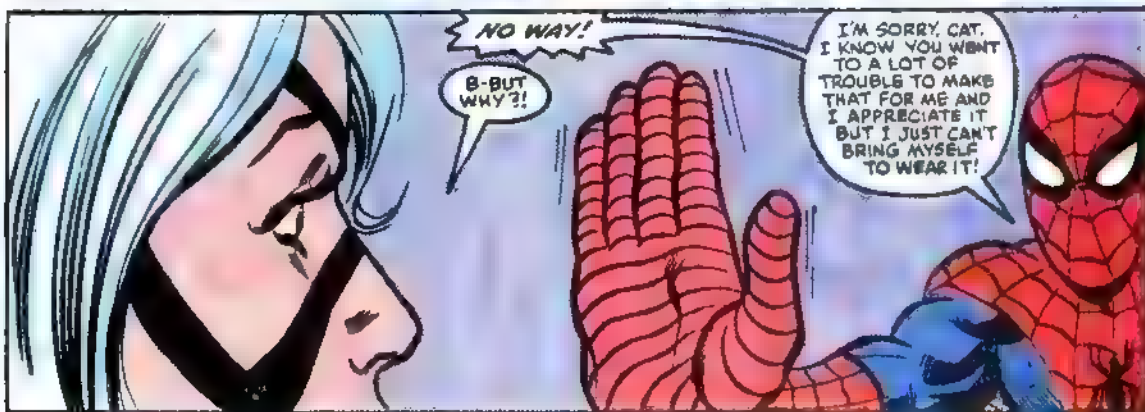
HOW DID IT MANAGE TO ESCAPE FROM FANTASTIC FOUR HEAD-QUARTERS? I THOUGHT REED RICHARDS HAD IT LOCKED UP FOR GOOD!



SILLY! THIS ISN'T YOUR *REAL* ALIEN COSTUME.

THIS IS JUST AN ORDINARY, EVERY-DAY CLOTH VERSION OF IT. I SEWED IT MYSELF!

IT'S SO MUCH SEXIER THAN YOUR OLD RED AND BLUE LONG JOHNS! WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT ON?



NO WAY!

B-BUT WHY?!

I'M SORRY, CAT. I KNOW YOU WENT TO A LOT OF TROUBLE TO MAKE THAT FOR ME AND I APPRECIATE IT BUT I JUST CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO WEAR IT!



"I STILL GET THE HEBBIE JEEBIES THINKING ABOUT HOW THE REAL LIVING COSTUME ALMOST CREATED A PERMANENT SYMBIOTIC BOND WITH MY BODY!"

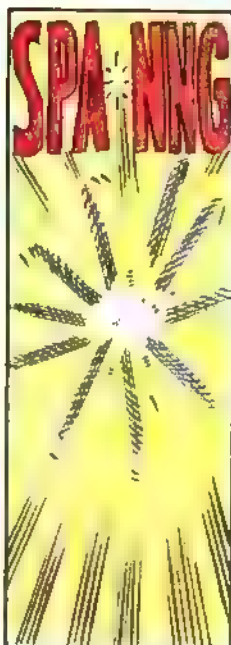
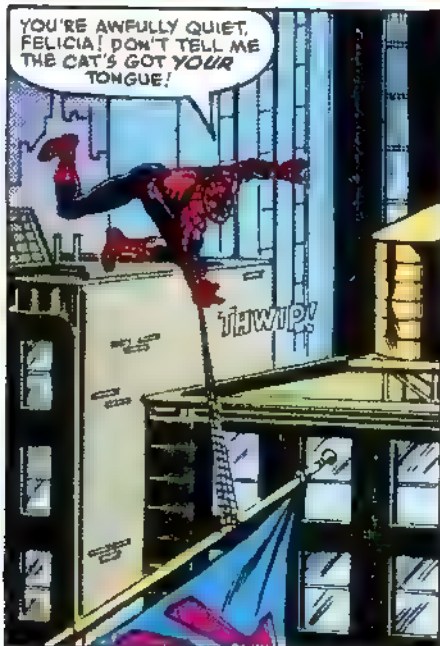
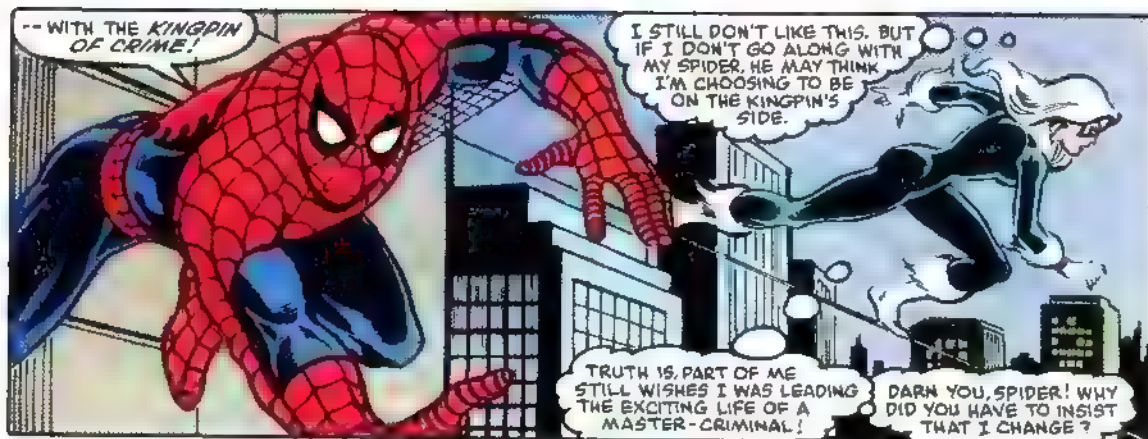
"IF MR. FANTASTIC HADN'T USED SOME KINDA SONIC GUN TO DRIVE IT OFF OF ME, I MIGHT HAVE BEEN STUCK IN IT FOREVER!"

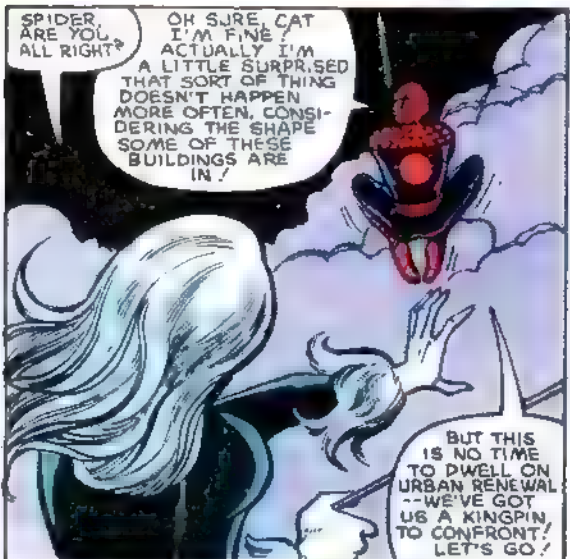


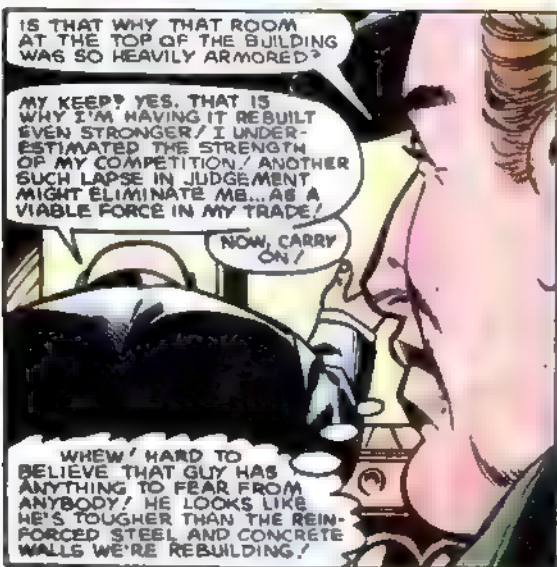
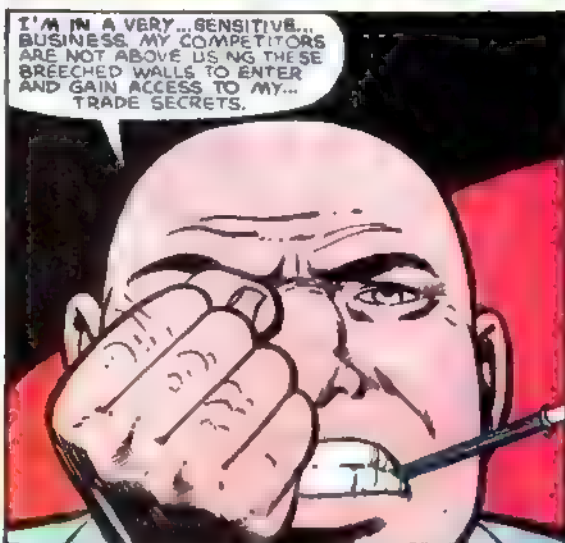
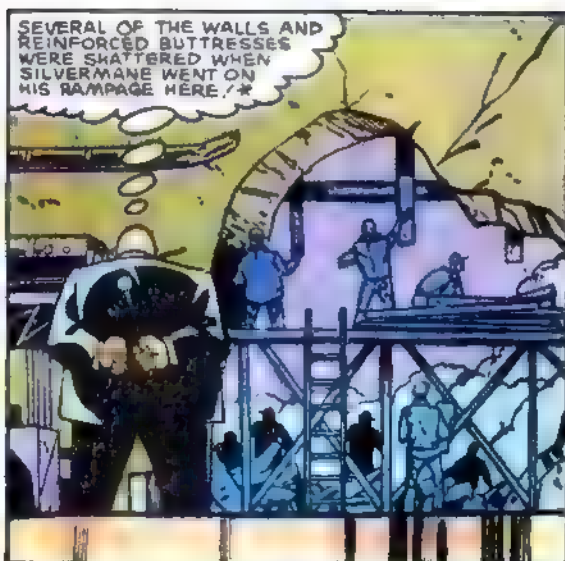
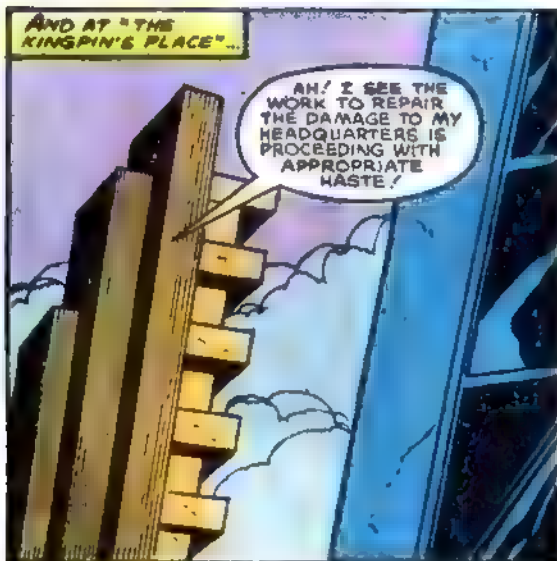
OH.

AW, DON'T ACT SO DISAPPOINTED, CAT. MAYBE I'LL TRY IT ON SOME DAY SOON WHEN I GET OVER BEING UNEASY ABOUT IT--OKAY?

IN THE MEANTIME, WE'VE GOT A DATE TO KEEP--







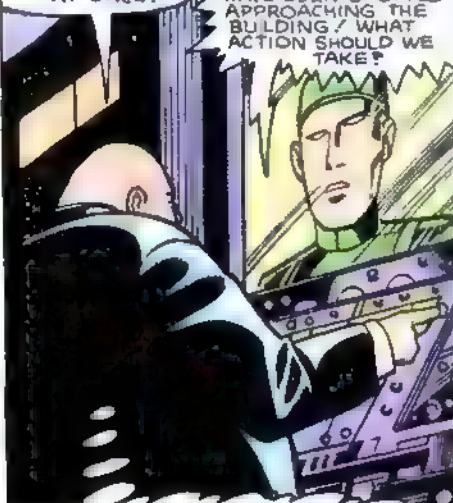
EVEN AS THE MEN CONTINUE TO RESTORE THE BUILDING, IN AN ADJACENT ROOM, THE KINGPIN HEARS...

BRNNNG!!



AN **ALARM!** IS THERE ANOTHER ATTACK BEING STAGED ON MY HEADQUARTERS?

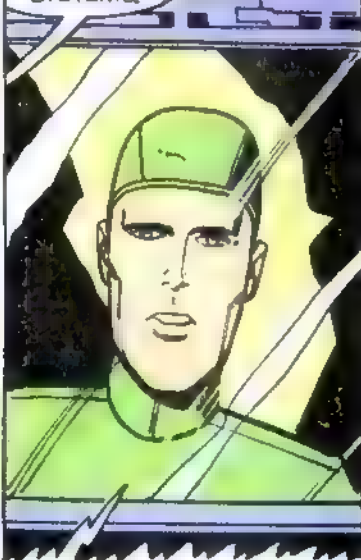
SURVEILLANCE SECTION, REPORT AT ONCE!



KINGPIN, SPIDER-MAN AND THE BLACK CAT HAVE BEEN SPOTTED APPROACHING THE BUILDING! WHAT ACTION SHOULD WE TAKE?

HMMM. UNDOUBTEDLY THEY THINK TO STRIKE WHILE MY DEFENSES ARE WEAKENED, THINKING ME VULNERABLE! THEY WILL LEARN THAT KINGPIN IS NEVER MORE DEADLY THAN WHEN HIS BACK IS AGAINST THE WALL!

ACTIVATE THE DEFENSE SYSTEMS!



THOSE AREN'T LIKELY TO KEEP OUT PEOPLE WITH THEIR POWER!



INDEED! AND IF THEY DO GET IN, I HAVE ONE ACE IN THE HOLE TO DRAW UPON!

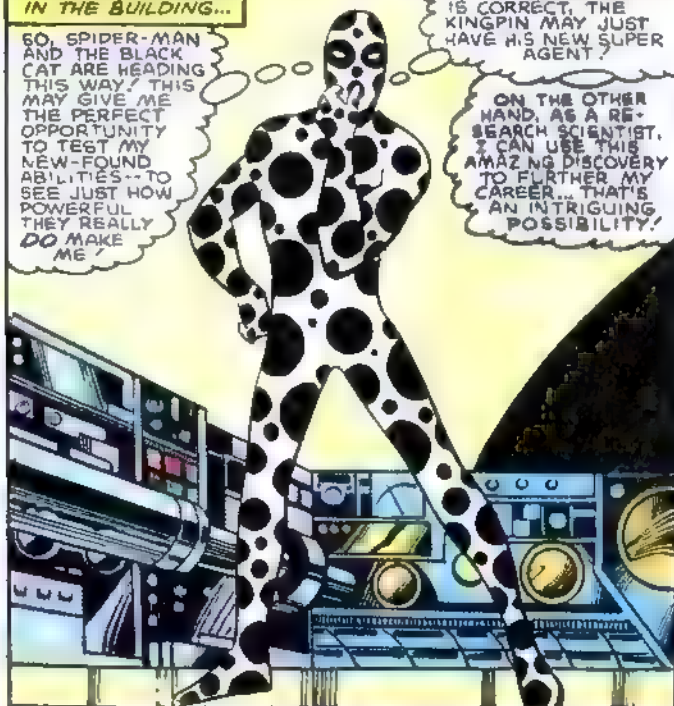
MY REVENGE UPON THEM IS A CERTAINTY! WIN OR LOSE THE KINGPIN WILL HAVE THE LAST WORD!

WHILE ELSEWHERE IN THE BUILDING...

SO, SPIDER-MAN AND THE BLACK CAT ARE HEADING THIS WAY! THIS MAY GIVE ME THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO TEST MY NEW-FOUND ABILITIES--TO SEE JUST HOW POWERFUL THEY REALLY DO MAKE ME!

IF MY ASSESSMENT IS CORRECT, THE KINGPIN MAY JUST HAVE HIS NEW SUPER AGENT!

ON THE OTHER HAND, AS A RESEARCH SCIENTIST, I CAN USE THIS AMAZING DISCOVERY TO FURTHER MY CAREER... THAT'S AN INTRIGUING POSSIBILITY!



PERHAPS THESE SPOTS WILL GIVE JOHNNY OHNN THE POWER TO GO FREELANCE, TO NO LONGER DEPEND ON THE KINGPIN--OR ANYONE ELSE--FOR FUTURE RESEARCH FUNDS.

BUT FIRST, THE CONFRONTATION!



MEANWHILE, ON THE NIGHT-DARK STREETS OF MANHATTAN, STILL LURKING IN THE SHADOWS OF THE BAXTER BUILDING...

IT HAS BUT RECENTLY ESCAPED FROM THIS FORTRESS WHICH QUARTERS THE FEAR-FAMED FANTASTIC FOUR, FREED BY AN ALIEN PROBING DEVICE WHICH DRILLED A SMALL HOLE IN ITS TRANSPARENT PRISON TUBE!

NOW IT HAUNTS THE STREET, WAITING FOR UNSUSPECTING PREY!

I---I GUESS ALL THE RUMORS I HEARD WERENT REALLY TRUE!

BACK IN INDIANA, ALL THE FOLKS SAID I'D HAVE TO BE REAL CAREFUL ABOUT WALKING AROUND NEW YORK CITY AT NIGHT!

BUT, HECK! IT DON'T SEEM SO BAD. THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF--HARDLY EVEN A SOUL OUT ON THE STREET

JUST GOES TO SHOW YOU, YOU SHOULDN'T FORM AN OPINION ABOUT ANYTHING TILL YOU EXPERIENCE IT FIRST--

--HAND!

HE STRUGGLES BRIEFLY, AS THE EBON COSTUME ENGULFS HIM, THEN--UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE, HE GROWS CALM--

--AND SHOOTING A WEB-LINE FROM THE BACK OF HIS HAND, SWINGS OFF INTO THE NIGHT!

AND BACK AT THE KINGPIN'S PRIVATELY-OWNED SKYSCRAPER...

WELL, HERE WE ARE ON TOP OF THE KINGPIN'S HQ. I'VE MANAGED TO SNEAK INSIDE BEFORE, SO MAY I SUGGEST...

HOLD IT, CAT! MY SPIDER-SENSE IS BUZZING--!

A NET, SHOOTING AT US! KINGPIN MUST HAVE BEEFED UP SECURITY! USED TO BE YOU HAD TO GET INSIDE BEFORE YOU GOT ATTACKED!

BUT THERE'S NO WAY ANYTHING AS CLUMSY AS AS THIS CAN CATCH US, RIGHT CAT?

ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS LEAP OUT OF THE WAY BEFORE--

HEY! SOMEHOW THE NET SHREDDED AND WRAPPED AROUND MY LEGS.

SORRY, LOVER! MY BAD LUCK POWER CAUSED THE NET TO SHRED, AND I GUESS PART OF IT SNAGGED YOU!

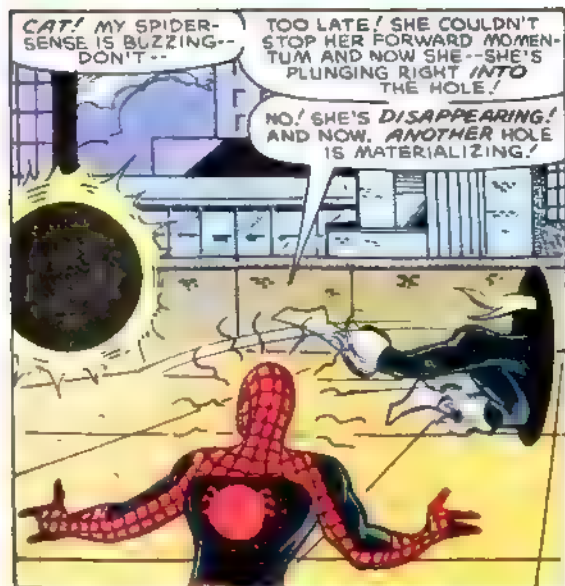
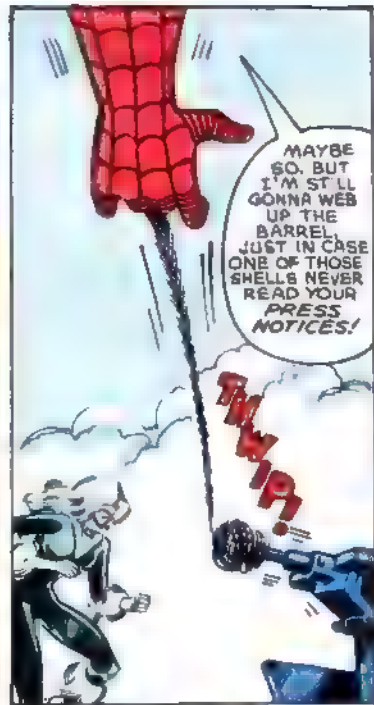
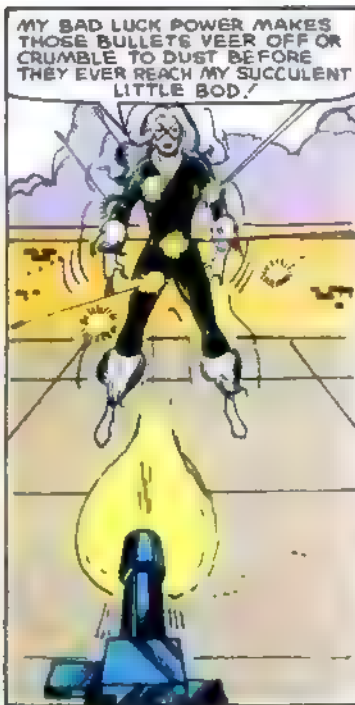
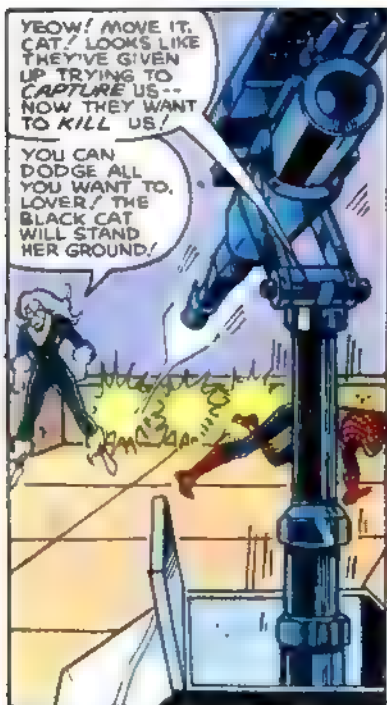
NO PROBLEM! I CAN LAND ON MY HANDS JUST AS EASILY AS MY FEET.

BUT REALLY CAT, CAN'T YOU YOU CONTROL YOUR POWER ANY BETTER THAN THAT? I DON'T KNOW WHO I HAVE TO BE MORE CAREFUL OF-- YOU OR THE KINGPIN!

HE'S RIGHT! NOW I REALLY WANT TO HAVE A CHANCE TO CONFRONT THE KINGPIN WITHOUT MY SPIDER AROUND! MAYBE..

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, SPIDER! MAYBE IT WOULD BE BETTER IF WE SPLIT UP-- TRIED TO ATTACK THE KINGPIN FROM DIFFERENT FRONTS!

I DON'T THINK SO CAT, EVEN IF YOUR BAD LUCK VIBES ARE A LITTLE UNPREDICTABLE, WE'RE STILL BETTER OFF GOING INTO THIS TOGETHER! UNITY! IN STRENGTH AND ALL THAT!



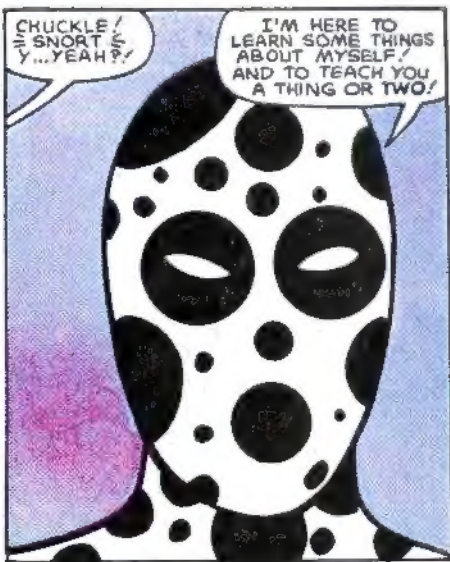


HAHAHAHA!
YUK YUK YUK!
"THE SPOT"
HOO-BOY!

THE **BLACK CAT** IS
QUITE **SAFE**! I
MERELY USED ONE OF
MY SPOTS TO TRANSPORT
HER SEVERAL BLOCKS
AWAY FROM HERE SO
YOU AND I COULD FACE
EACH OTHER **ALONE**!

"THE SPOT"
TEE-HEE!!

ER...
SPIDER-
MAN...?



CHUCKLE!
= SNORT
Y...YEAH?!

I'M HERE TO
LEARN SOME THINGS
ABOUT MYSELF!
AND TO TEACH YOU
A THING OR TWO!



UH-HUH. YEAH.
OKAY. SURE.

WHA-?! MY
PIST SINKING
RIGHT INTO
YOU!

NO HARM DONE, MY
IMPETUOUS YOUTH!

NOW
ALLOW ME
TO DEMON-
STRATE
SOME OF
THE OTHER
USEFUL
PROPERTIES
MY SPOTS
POSSESS.



I'LL JUST GRAB A HANDFUL FROM
MY BODY--AND HURL THEM INTO
THE AIR...

THEY'RE STAYING
SUSPENDED WHEREVER
THEY LAND!



EXACTLY! AND BY THROWING
A PUNCH THROUGH THIS SPOT
NEAR ME, IT TRAVERSES THE
INTERVENING SPACE BETWEEN US--



-- AND COMES OUT
THROUGH A SPOT
NEAR YOU!

OWCH!

THUD!

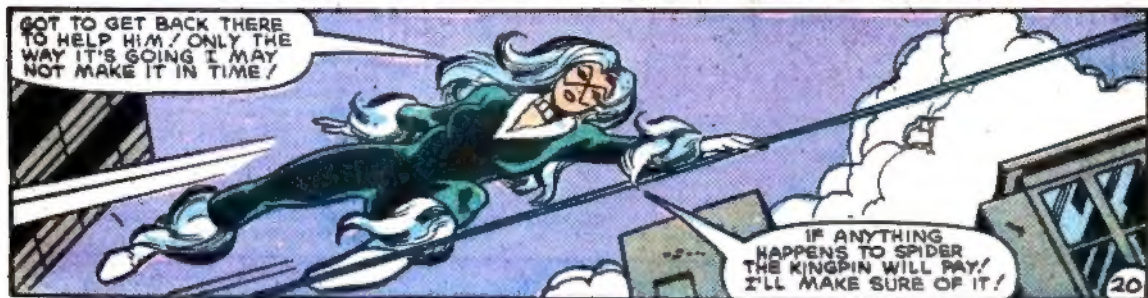
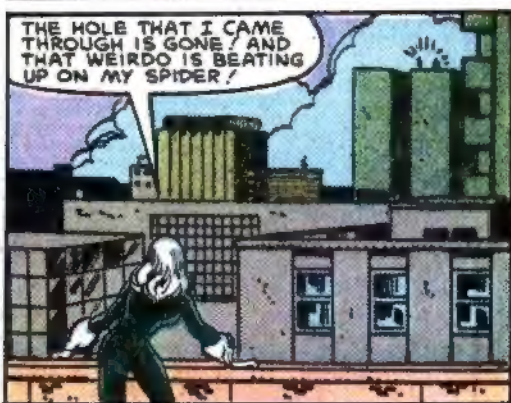
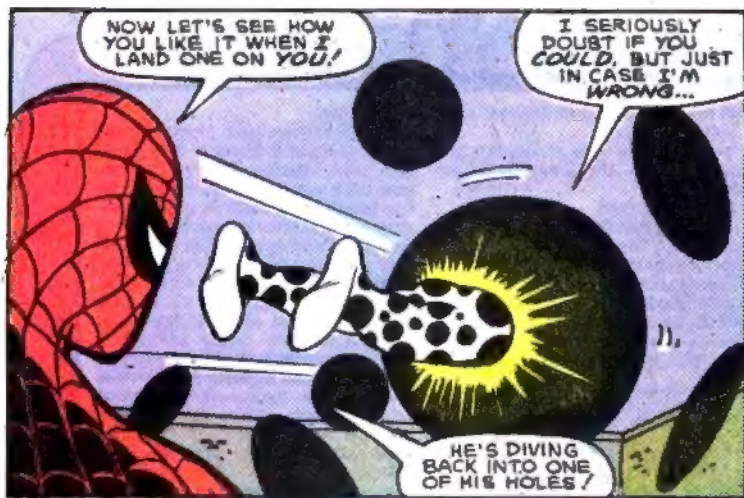
SOMEHOW, MY
SPIDER-SENSE
DIDN'T WARN ME
IN TIME FOR
ME TO DODGE
THAT PUNCH!

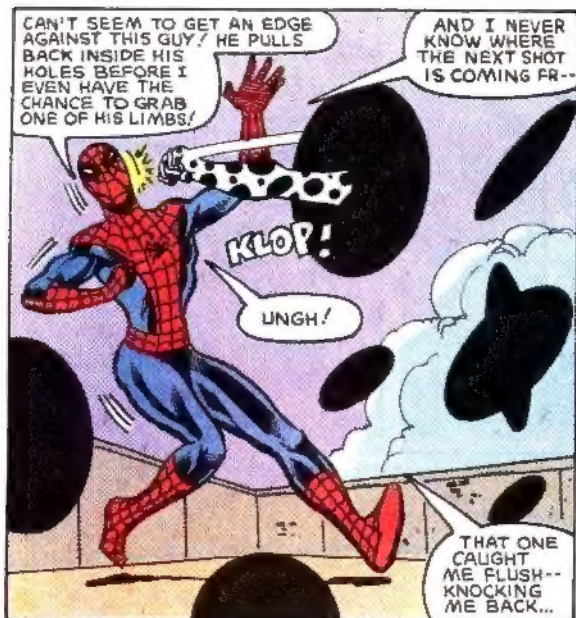
IT'S AS IF
HIS FIST DIDN'T
EVEN EXIST
TILL IT HIT ME!

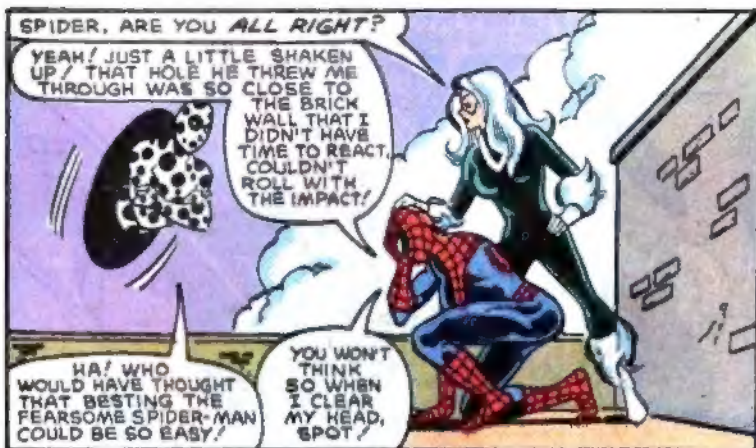


INDEED IT WAS TRAVER-
SING ANOTHER DIMENSION
UNTIL THE MOMENT IT
EMERGED FROM THE SPOT!

NIFTY GIMMICK, SPOT! ONLY
ONE PROBLEM--THAT PUNCH COULDN'T
HAVE KNOCKED OVER A SMURF, LET ALONE
YOUR FRIENDLY IMPETUOUS SPIDER-YOUTH!







SPIDER, ARE YOU *ALL* RIGHT?

YEAH! JUST A LITTLE SHAKEN UP / THAT HOLE HE THREW ME THROUGH WAS SO CLOSE TO THE BRICK WALL THAT I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO REACT. COULDN'T ROLL WITH THE IMPACT!

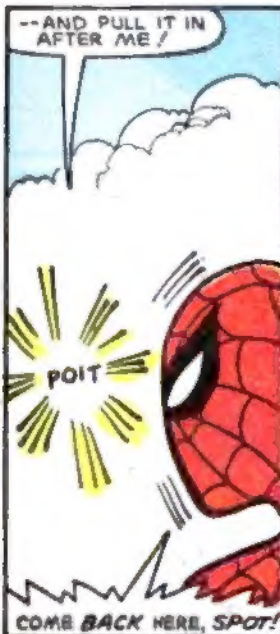
HA! WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT BESTING THE FEARSOME SPIDER-MAN COULD BE SO EASY!

YOU WON'T THINK SO WHEN I CLEAR MY HEAD, SPOT!



PERHAPS NOT, IF I WAITED AROUND FOR *THAT* TO HAPPEN! BUT I'M NOT THAT FOOLHARDY!

I'LL JUST DUCK BACK INSIDE MY HOLE--



--AND PULL IT IN AFTER ME!

POIT

COME BACK HERE, SPOT!



OH, GREAT! ONLY I COULD HAVE A FIGHT WITH A GUY WHO MAKES ME SOUND LIKE I'M SCOLDING A DISOBEDIENT PUPPY--

ONE MORE THING--

OBOY--



DON'T HARNESS THE KINGPIN AGAIN, OR I SHALL BE FORCED TO DESTROY YOU BOTH!



POIT



WELL THIS EVENING WAS CERTAINLY A BUST BUT WE WERE HARDLY EXPECTING INTERFERENCE FROM ANYONE LIKE THAT!

I THINK WE'D BETTER BEAT A HASTY RETREAT, REGROUP, AND MOUNT A BETTER-PLANNED ATTACK!

YOU'RE RIGHT, SPIDER!



AND JUST MAYBE I'D BE BETTER OFF MAKING THE NEXT ATTEMPT ON MY OWN!

I'LL BE BACK, ALL RIGHT! BUT NEXT TIME I'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY TO FACE THE KINGPIN ALONE!

I'VE GOT TO LEARN IF MY SUSPICIONS ARE CORRECT-- THAT MY POWERS ARE MAKING ME A THREAT TO THE MAN I LOVE!

NEXT:

THE FINAL SHOWDOWN WITH THE KINGPIN! DON'T MISS THE DOUBLE SIZE SPECTACULAR #100...

BREAKIN'!